

Message Text

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TAGS: PGOV, CA

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO CABINET CHANGES

1. VANCOUVER SUN EDITORIAL OF SEPTEMBER 16, "SHUFFLING ALONG", FINDS THAT PM TRUDEAU'S "MAJOR CABINET SHUFFLE" MEANS THAT MOST OF HIS NEW MINISTERS WILL NOT HAVE ANYTHING LIKE A FIRM GRASP ON THEIR JOBS WHEN THE GOVERNMENT MEETS PARLIAMENT AND "ANNOUNCES ITS RESURRECTION", BUT THAT "MR. TRUDEAU... HAS MADE HIS CAUCUS HAPPY BY OPENING THE DOOR FOR BACKBENCHERS TO COME FORWARD. HE HAS MADE HIS PARTY HAPPY WITH AT LEAST THE APPEARANCE OF ACTION AND CHANGE. AND THAT LEAVES ONLY TO BE MADE HAPPY -- LET S SEE -- THE PUBLIC."

2. IN SPECIFICS, EDITORIAL NOTES THAT TWO NEW PORTFOLIOS (FITNESS AND SPORT AND SMALL BUSINESS) GIVEN TO BRITISH COLUMBIANS WERE LABELLED BY PM AS "MAKESHIFT AT BIRTH" AND SARCASTICALLY COMMENTS THAT THIS IS "COMFORTING FOR THE RECIPIENTS". WITH REGARD TO DEPARTURE OF MACKASEY, EDITORIAL SAYS PM S EXPLANATION "IS DISBELIEVED", BUT THAT MACKASEY HAD DONE THE HONORABLE THING FOR A MINISTER WHO HAS PUBLICLY DISAGREED WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY (I.E. STERNER MEASURES ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE) BY QUITTING. EDITORIAL ALSO FINDS THAT JAMIESON S MOVE TO EXTAFF "IS INDICATION THAT MR. TRUDEAU INTENDS TO CARRY ON AS HIS OWN FOREIGN MINISTER".

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EM SUN EDITORIAL SPEAKS FAVORABLY OF CHRETIEN, ANDRAS AND CULLEN AND THE "PROMISING" NEWCOMER, MONIQUE BEGIN, AND EXPRESSES HOPE THAT ALLMAND'S SHIFT TO INDIAN AFFAIRS MAY BE A PLACE "WHERE HIS HUMANITY AND LIBERALISM MIGHT BE BETTER PLAYED AND WHERE PREDECESSOR JUDD BUCHANAN WAS UNINSPIRING".

RM IN CONCLUSION, SUN EDITORIAL FINDS SHUFFLE TO BE "A RATHER IMPROVED CABINET....IF YET TO BE UNFOLDED AS IT SHOULD".

5. VANCOUVER SUN LEAD STORY(MARJORIE NICHOLS) OF SEPTEMBER 15 ON CABINET CHANGES HAD QUESTIONED DESCRIPTION OF SHUFFLE AS "MAJOR SURGERY" BUT STATED "THERE IS NO DENYING THE POLITICAL WIZARDRY OF THE CHANGES HE (PM) HAS WROUGHT". STORY ALSO STATED THAT ONLY ONE CABINET MEMBER -- FAULKNER -- HAS "SUFFERED A GENUINE DEMOTION".

6. SEPTEMBER 16 SUN EDITORIAL BEING POUCHED.
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